

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming device comprising:
 - a recording section ~~for recording~~that records a predetermined image on a rewritable image recording medium;
 - a control section ~~for controlling~~that controls the recording section to record a test image, distinct from the predetermined image, on the rewritable image recording medium;
 - a detection section ~~for detecting~~that detects an image characteristic value of the test image recorded on the rewritable image recording medium; and
 - a determination section that determines whether the image characteristic value detected by the detection section is within an allowable range or not.
2. (Currently Amended) The image forming device of claim 1, wherein the control section controls the recording section so that before the predetermined image is recorded on the rewritable image recording medium, the test image is recorded on the rewritable image recording medium, and when the image characteristic value detected by the detection section is outside the allowable range, image recording conditions for recording the predetermined image on the rewritable image recording medium are set based on the detected image characteristic value.
3. (Currently Amended) The image forming device of claim 2, wherein the control section controls the image forming device to discharge the rewritable image recording medium to a discharging tray for defective media, when the image characteristic value detected by the detection section is outside the allowable range even after the image recording

conditions have been changed more than once based on detecting the image characteristic value of more than one recorded test image.

4. (Currently Amended) The image forming device of claim 2, wherein the control section controls the recording section to record a plurality of test images on the rewritable image recording medium under a plurality of different image recording conditions, controls the detection section to detect an image characteristic value for each of the plurality of test images, and sets new image recording conditions based on the image characteristic values detected by the detection section for each test image recorded under the different image recording conditions.

5. (Currently Amended) The image forming device of claim 2, wherein the predetermined image is recorded on the rewritable image recording medium, based on the image recording conditions set by the control section, when the image characteristic value detected by the detection section is within the allowable range.

6. (Currently Amended) The image forming device of claim 1, wherein the control section controls the recording section so that the predetermined image to be recorded on the rewritable image recording medium and the test image are simultaneously recorded on the rewritable image recording medium, and sets image recording conditions for subsequently ~~recording~~ re-recording the predetermined image on the rewritable image recording medium, based on the image characteristic value detected by the detection section when the detected image characteristic value is outside the allowable range.

7. (Currently Amended) The image forming device of claim 6, wherein the control section controls the image forming device to discharge the rewritable image recording medium to a discharging tray for defective media, when the image characteristic value detected by the detection section is outside the allowable range even after the image recording

conditions have been changed more than once based on detecting image characteristic values of more than one recorded test image.

8. (Currently Amended) The image forming device of claim 6, wherein the control section controls the recording section to record a plurality of test images on the rewritable image recording medium under a plurality of different image recording conditions, controls the detection section to detect image characteristic values for each of the plurality of test images, and sets the image recording conditions based on the image characteristic values detected by the detection section for each test image recorded under the different image recording conditions.

9. (Currently Amended) The image forming device of claim 6, wherein the control section controls the image forming device to delete the test image recorded on the rewritable image recording medium when the image characteristic value detected by the detection section is within the allowable range.

10. (Currently Amended) The image forming device of claim 1, wherein the rewritable image recording medium is provided with a storage medium on which an identification code is stored, the image forming device further comprising:

a read section ~~for reading~~that reads the identification code stored on the storage medium; and

a history storage section ~~for storing~~that stores histories of image recording conditions for the predetermined image recorded on the rewritable image recording medium, and histories of detection results of the detection section, wherein the control section stores the image recording conditions and the detection results in the history storage section together with the identification codes by the control section.

11. (Original) The image forming device of claim 10, wherein the control section sets image recording conditions for recording the predetermined image, based on the histories stored in the history storage section.

12. (Currently Amended) The image forming device of claim 1, wherein the rewritable image recording medium is provided with a storage medium onto which the control section stores image recording conditions for the predetermined image recorded on the rewritable image recording medium and detection results of the detection section.

13. (Original) The image forming device of claim 12, wherein the control section sets the image recording conditions for recording the predetermined image based on the image recording conditions and the detection results stored in the storage medium.

14. (Original) The image forming device of claim 1, wherein the detection section detects display densities of the test image.

15. (Currently Amended) The image forming device of claim 1, wherein the rewritable image recording medium is a rewritable image recording medium onto which an image can be rewritten with an optical signal.

16. (Currently Amended) An image forming method comprising:
recording a test image on a rewritable image recording medium based on predetermined image recording conditions set for a predetermined image, distinct from the test image, to be recorded on the rewritable image recording medium;

detecting an image characteristic value of the test image recorded on the rewritable image recording medium; and

determining whether the detected image characteristic value is within an allowable range or not.

17. (Currently Amended) The image forming method of claim 16, the method further comprising recording ~~a predetermined~~ the predetermined image on the rewritable

image recording medium, based on the predetermined image recording conditions, when it is determined that the image characteristic value detected in the detecting step is within the allowable range.

18. (Currently Amended) The image forming method of claim 16, further comprising:

changing the predetermined image recording conditions so that the detected image characteristic value approaches the allowable range, when it is determined that the image characteristic value detected in the detecting step is outside the allowable range; and

subsequently ~~recording~~ re-recording the test image on the rewritable image recording medium, based on the changed image recording conditions.

19. (Currently Amended) The image forming method of claim 18, wherein the steps of:

changing the image recording conditions;

recording the test image on the rewritable image recording medium, based on the changed image recording conditions;

detecting the image characteristic value; and

determining whether the detected image characteristic value is within the allowable range,

are repeated until it is determined that a current image characteristic value detected in the detecting step is within the allowable range.

20. (Currently Amended) The image forming method of claim 18, wherein the steps of:

changing the image recording conditions;

recording the test image on the rewritable image recording medium, based on the changed image recording conditions;

detecting the image characteristic value; and
determining whether the detected image characteristic value is within the allowable range,

are repeated until a number of repetitions reaches a predetermined number.

21. (Currently Amended) The image forming method of claim 16, the method further comprising storing at least one of image recording conditions for at least one image recorded on the rewritable image recording medium, and the detected image characteristic value, wherein the predetermined image recording conditions are defined based on at least one of the stored image recording conditions and image characteristic value.

22. (Currently Amended) The image forming device of claim 1, wherein the image forming device forms the predetermined image without the test image on the rewritable image recording medium after the determination section determines the image determination value detected by the detection section is within the allowable range.

23. (Currently Amended) The image forming device of claim 1, wherein the image forming device deletes the test image recorded on the rewritable image recording medium.

24. (Currently Amended) The image forming device of claim 1, wherein the recording section records the predetermined image on the rewritable image recording medium by overwriting the predetermined image on the rewritable image recording medium on which the test image is recorded.